

Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

August 2016

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit



Part I Total Crime

A review of reported incidents in Cambridge for the first eight months of 2016 reveals a 6% decrease in serious crime so far this year when compared with 2015, and when measured against the five-year average for the same time frame, a 10% decline, with 200 fewer crimes than the projected total, was recorded.

Further analysis of the crime totals through August 29th of this year indicates that, while violent crimes recorded a 8% increase with 15 additional incidents above the same time period in 2015, property crimes continue to slip downward with 129 fewer incidents reported when compared with last year to produce an 8% reduction.

The property crimes of burglary and larceny are the key indicators and the driving forces behind the decline in crime numbers this year. The index crime of burglary has plunged 27% and a 4% drop in larceny has been recorded. If the decline in burglary this year continues at its current rate, the final totals for this property crime in Cambridge will be at their lowest point in over 50 years.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	7/5 - 8/1	8/2 - 8/29	Change	2015	2016	Change	Avg	Change
Total Violent Crime	24	23	-4%	187	202	8%	211	-4%
Total Property Crime	177	209	10/0		1569	-8%	1760	-11%
Total Part I Crime	201	232	15%	1885	1771	-6%	1971	-10%



Part I Property Crime

Analysis of property crime totals for the first eight months of 2016 points to an 8% decrease when measured against the 2015 totals and a 11% reversal below the five-year average. The 62 fewer larceny from motor vehicles through the end of August of 2016 is the major factor fueling the decline in property crimes.

Housebreaks, which surged during the first quarter of 2016, have been on the wane over the past five months and are now down 18%, with 40 fewer breaks than the same time frame in 2015. The housebreak total for this summer (June, July & August), a total of 50 incidents, is a benchmark low recording for warm weather months in Cambridge. When comparing the property crime totals for July versus August of 2016, almost all of the larceny categories recorded moderate increases.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	7/5 - 8/1	8/2 - 8/29	Change	2015	2016	Change	Avg	Change
Burglary	11	24	118%	288	209	-27%	263	-21%
Commercial Break	0	2	IN-CALC	71	32	-55%	51	-37%
Housebreak	11	22	100%	217	177	-18%	212	-17%
Larceny	154	176	14%	1327	1277	-4%	1413	-10%
Larceny (Misc)	3	4	33%	31	22	-29%	25	-12%
Larceny from Building	28	20	-29%	240	199	-17%	246	-19%
Larceny from MV	20	32	60%	296	234	-21%	334	-30%
Larceny from Person	20	19	-5%		147	29%	168	-13%
Larceny from Residence	18	28	56%	161	189	17%	139	36%
Larceny of Bicycle	42	43	2%	248	245	-1%	247	-1%
Larceny of Plate	0	4	IN-CALC	17	15	-12%	19	-21%
Larceny of Services	2	1	-50%	9	8	-11%	10	-20%
Shoplifting	21	25	19%	211	218	3%	225	-3%
Auto Theft	12	9	-25%	83	83	0%	83	0%
Total Property Crime	177	209	18%	1698	1569	-8%	1760	-11%



Part I Violent Crime

The projected five-year weighted average for violent crime in Cambridge for the first eight months of the year is 211 incidents. Through August of this year, there were 202 violent crimes recorded in the City, 15 crimes above last year (+8%) and 9 serious crimes under the total forecasted for the first eight months of the year (-4%).

There have been 11 more aggravated assaults this year than in the same time period of 2015 to yield an 10% increase. The rape total of 20 so far in 2016 is one incident above the number recorded through August 29th of last year.

There have been eight additional street robberies reported in Cambridge this year when compared with the same time frame in 2015 to post a 24% increase. There was a measured incline from six street robberies in June of this year to nine in July. The majority of these incidents were concentrated around the neighborhoods of Central Square. However, there was a sharp decline from July to August with only three street robberies recorded for the month.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five	Five Year	
	7/5 - 8/1	8/2 - 8/29	Change	2015	2016	Change	Avg	Change	
Homicide	0	0	IN-CALC	2	2	0%	2	0%	
Rape	2	2	0%	19	20	5%	19	5%	
Robbery	11	5	-55%	52	55	6%	63	-13%	
Commercial Robbery	2	2	0%	18	13	-28%	18	-28%	
Street Robbery	9	3	-67%	34	42	24%	45	-7%	
Aggravated Assault	11	16	45%	114	125	10%	128	-2 %	
Total Violent Crime	24	23	-4%	187	202	8%	211	-4%	



MURDER

No Patterns

- The first murder of 2016 in Cambridge occurred on the night of March 22nd when Armando Hernandez Jr., 30, of Belmont was killed by gunfire on Mt. Auburn St. just before 10 PM. Area residents said they heard 10 or 11 gunshots. A second victim was hospitalized with a leg wound. This case remains under investigation.
- The Cambridge Police responded to a report of a shooting outside of 140 Harvard Street on 6/25/16. Arriving officers discovered the victim, Anthony Clay, 49, of Cambridge suffering from a gunshot wound. The victim was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital where he was pronounced dead. This was the second homicide recorded in the City in 2016. This case remains under investigation.

There were three murders in Cambridge in 2015:

- On April 14th, 2015, Carlos D. Colina was arraigned in Middlesex District Court and was charged with the April 4th murder of Jonathan Camilien, 26, of Somerville, in an apartment on Binney St.
- On August 24th, Roosselin Altidor, 25, of Medford was arraigned in Cambridge District Court on a charge of murder in connection with a homicide in Cambridge on Wednesday, August 12. Rasaun Nichols, 31, of Cambridge, was killed by gunshots while in a vehicle in the area of Newtowne Court.
- Antwan Gonsalves, 33, of Cambridge was arrested on September 24th and charged with murder in connection with a homicide that involved a stabbing in Central Square on the night of September 12, 2015. Killed was Tywann Jones, 35, of Roxbury.

Percent Change*

Previous Year

5-Year Average

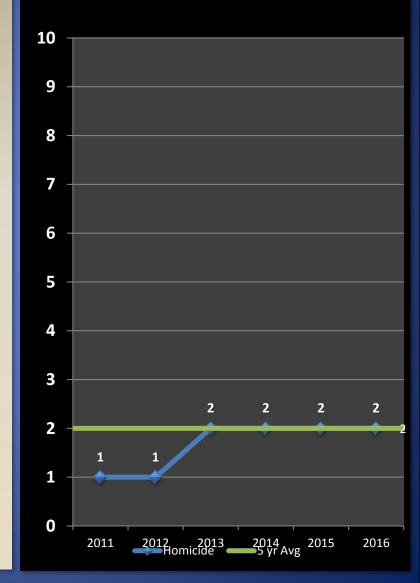
In-Cal

Last 4 Weeks

In-Cal

In-Cal

*IN -CAL: Percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to present a statistically misleading percentage.





Characteristics of Murder in Cambridge

For the 30-year period between 1960 and 1989, the City of Cambridge averaged slightly less than five murders per year. The annual average since 1990 has fallen to approximately two per year. Trend analysis over recent years points to two recurring murder scenarios in Cambridge: domestic murder, in which one family member is brutally killed by another in a homicidal rage, and the murder of young males by a handgun or knife in acts of retaliatory street violence.

Cambridge Murder Statistics, 1990-2015

- 56 people murdered in 51 incidents (in 4 of the incidents, 2 or more people were killed)
- 37 victims were male (average age of 34)
- 19 victims were female (average age of 41)
- Most common weapons: handguns (25 incidents) and knives (14 incidents)
- 15 of the 48 cases are still under investigation or remain unsolved
- 24 of the 30 cases since 2000 have been cleared by arrest or by the death of the suspect, including all three murders in both 2013 and 2015, and one of the two murders in 2014.



Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2015

Colin Burton, 30, of Dorchester, was shot and killed outside of Hi - Fi Pizza on Mass Ave in Central Square on September 18th, 1999. Burton was talking with the occupants of a Ford Explorer when the subject in the passenger seat fired through the window. Two suspects fled the scene. The case remains under active investigation.



September 18, 1999, Mass Ave



lan Gray, 19, of Mattapan, was in an argument outside of the Rhythm & Spice restaurant that spilled out onto Mass Ave. A suspect that had left the scene returned with a group of people and a fight ensued. A knife was produced during the altercation and four gunshots were fired, fatally wounding Gray. This case remains open.

On June 17th, 2002 at 7:00PM, Ricardo Williams, 27, of Malden, was found in the driver's seat of a motor vehicle suffering from a gunshot wound to his face. Williams was taken to CCH where he was pronounced dead. This case remains open.



August 2016

Anyone with information about these crimes is asked to contact CPD at 617-349-3370.



Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2015

Jason Ellcock, 33, of Malden, formerly of Cambridge and father of three, was found with multiple gunshot wounds in front of the driveway to 364 Rindge Ave at 3:05 AM on the night of June 16th, 2009. He was pronounced dead at the scene. This incident remains under investigation.





March 12, 2011, Brookline

James Lauture, 30, of Cambridge, was sitting in a vehicle near Brookline and Watson Streets just after midnight on Saturday, March 12th, 2011, when an unknown gunman opened fire. The occupants in the car were able to drive to Central Square. Lauture died from multiple gunshot wounds. The other man in the vehicle survived. This case remains open.

On June 3rd, 2012, Charlene Holmes, 16, of Cambridge, was shot while sitting on a porch on Willow St. She later succumbed to her wounds at the hospital. The investigation into this incident remains active, but no arrests have been made to date.



June 3, 2012, Willow St



On July 3rd, 2014, at 10:00 PM, Kensley David, 22, suffered a single gunshot wound to the head while on Windsor Street. Investigators believe that the incident was not random. This case remains under investigation

Anyone with information about these crimes is asked to contact CPD at 617-349-3370.



RAPE No Patterns

- The rape total of 20 for the first eight months of 2016 is one incident above the 2015 number for the same time period. Eight of the incidents this year have been classified as acquaintance rapes, four as domestic scenarios, four as contact crimes, and the final four have yet to be classified and remain under investigation. There were no stranger-to-stranger rapes recorded in Cambridge through August 29th of 2016.
- The final count of rape in Cambridge for 2015 that was submitted to the FBI was 25 crimes, one more (+4%) than in 2014.
- The following is the breakdown of Rape classifications in Cambridge in 2015: one stranger-to-stranger, eleven involving acquaintances, nine contact situations, two domestic sexual assault, and two blitz scenarios.
- The FBI's Uniform Crime Report for 2014 reports that: there were an estimated 84,041 forcible rapes reported to law enforcement nationally in 2014. This estimate was 2.4% higher than the 2013 estimate, and 1.8% and 10.9% lower than the 2010 and 2005 estimates, respectively. The rate of forcible rapes in 2014 was estimated at 26.4 per 100,000 inhabitants.

Percent Change*

Last 4 Weeks Previous Year

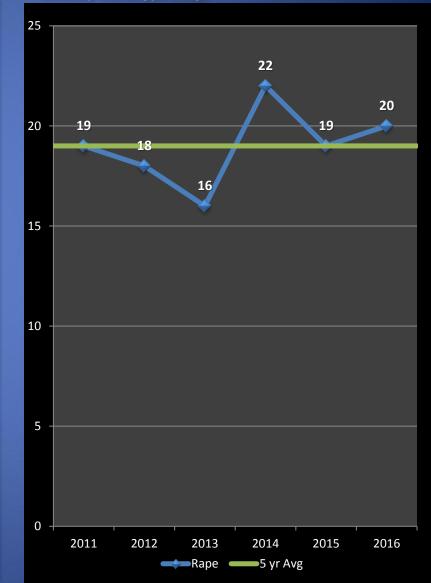
5-Year Average

0%

+5%

+5%

*IN -CAL: Percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to present a statistically misleading percentage.





AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

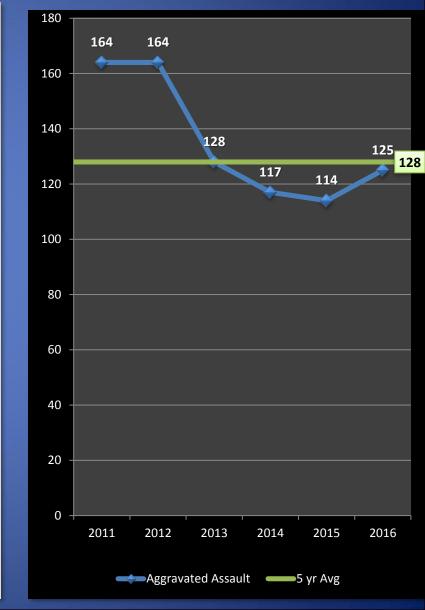
No Patterns

- When measuring the total of aggravated assaults for the first eight months of 2016 with the same time frame last year, there has been a 10% increase reported with 11 additional incidents through August 29th of this year. The total of 125 aggravated assaults represents three fewer incidents (-2%) than the projected five-year average of 128 crimes for the first eight months of the year.
- When measuring July of this year against August, there
 was a notable surge in reports of aggravated assaults,
 which stimulated a 45% increase with five additional
 incidents reported.
- The 125 aggravated assaults over the first eight months of 2016 were composed of the following classifications:

 14 fights among acquaintances; 40 domestic situations;
 6 juvenile assaults; 18 unprovoked scenarios; 20 bar brawls; 2 psychotic episodes; 7 homeless scenarios; a confrontation between a shop owner and a patron; 3 workplace assaults, a third lover scenario, 6 traffic and parking situations, 6 assaults on a police officer, and one drug deal.
- Past trends indicate that invariably 30 to 40 percent of aggravated assaults are domestic-related. That statistic has held true over the first eight months of 2016 with 40 (32%) of the 125 assaults classified as domestic.

Percent Change

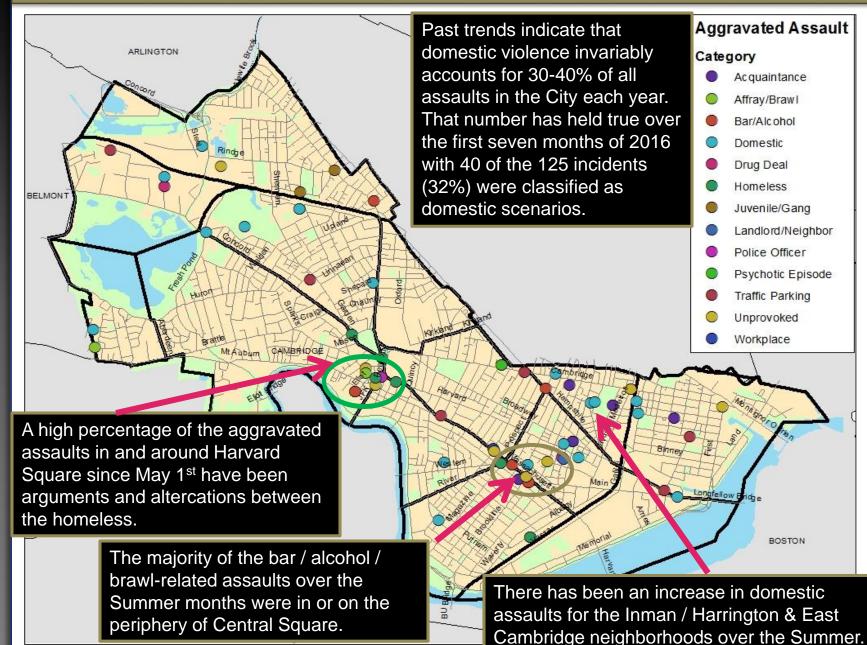








Geographic Breakdown of Aggravated Assaults: 5.1.16 to 8.29.16



August 2016



ROBBERY

No Patterns

- The 5-year average for overall robbery in Cambridge for the first eight months of the year is 63 incidents.
 Through August 29th 2016, 55 robberies were recorded, which translates to a 13% dip below the forecasted 5year average, with an additional 3 incidents (+6%) above the 2015 total for the same time period.
- The street robbery total for the first eight months of 2016 (42 incidents) shot upward 24% when compared with last year, though down slightly with 3 fewer than the projected five-year average total of 45.
- There has been one street robbery pattern alert to be identified in the City over the past 18 months. The alert was issued during the last week of April. There were 5 street robberies in the Cambridgeport/Port neighborhoods reported over the course of 6 days to the Cambridge Police Department. The majority of the victims were males between 20 and 30 years of age. The robberies were committed between midnight and 2 AM with the suspects being juvenile males on bikes. A knife was brandished in two of the incidents. Since extra patrols have been allocated to the area, there have been only a few sporadic and unrelated incidents.
- Commercial robberies have dipped from 18 incidents during the first eight months of 2015 to 13 (-28%) through August 29th of this year.

Percent Change

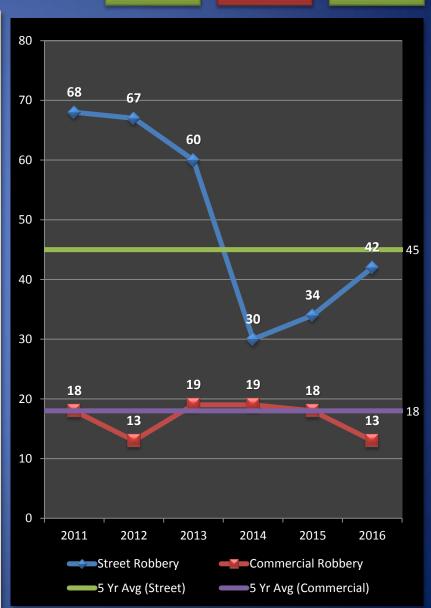
Last 4 Weeks Previous Year

-55%



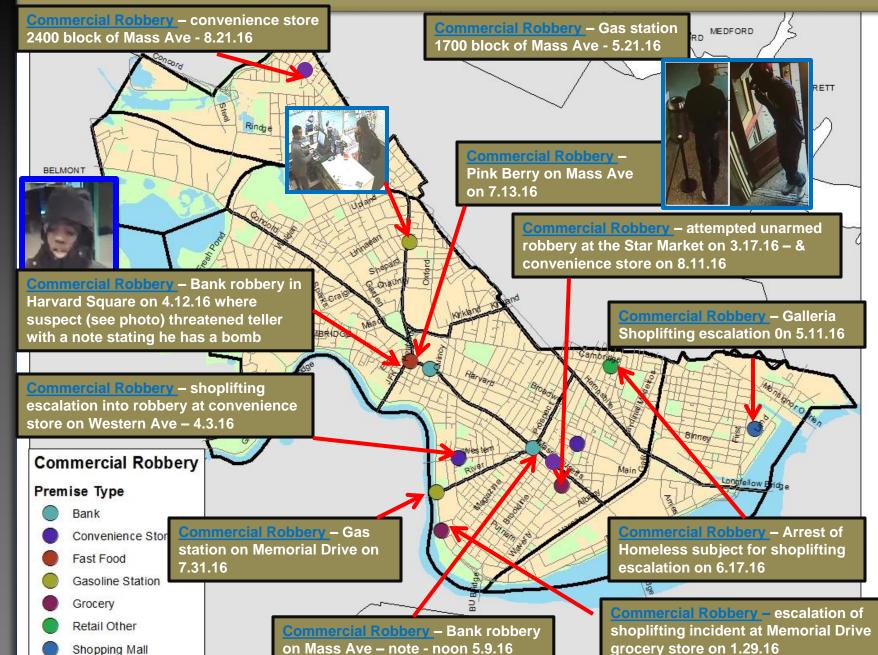
-13%

5-Year Average





Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Robbery: January – August of 2016



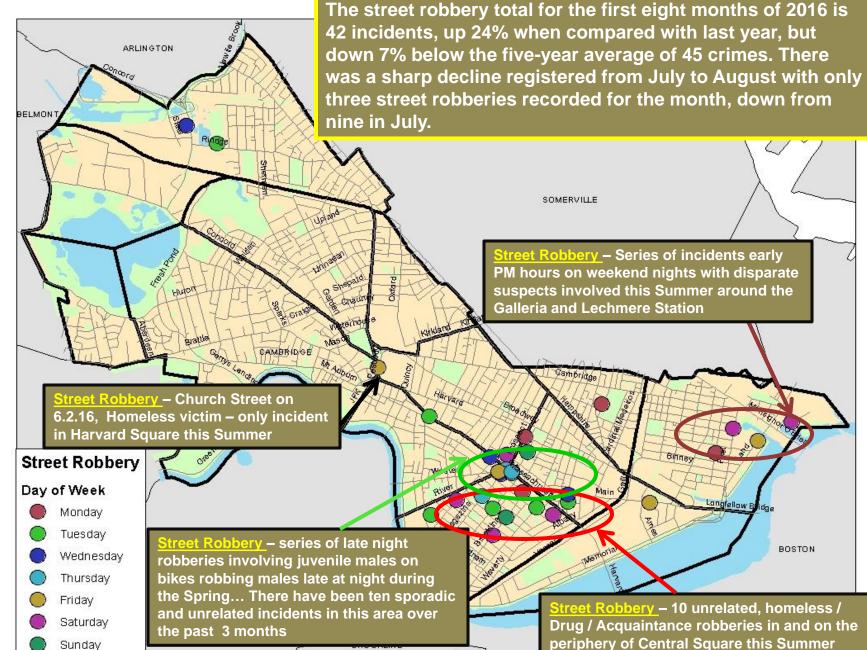
August 2016

August

2016



Geographic Breakdown of Street Robberies: 5.1.16 to 8.29.16





Burglary

No Pattern

 The property index crime of burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, has incurred a weighty decline of 21% in 2016 when compared to the five-year average, with 54 fewer incidents reported below the projected total of 263 breaks, and has nosedived 27% when compared with last year's total for the first eight months of the year, with 79 fewer burglaries recorded.

- Housebreaks continue to retreat downward from 217 incidents during the first 32 weeks of 2015 to 177 in 2016, which translates to an 18% decline. Despite the fact that housebreaks jumped from 11 in July to 22 in August, the total of 50 housebreaks for the three warm weather months is the lowest total for the Summer in the past 50 years.
- There have been 32 commercial breaks in Cambridge over the first eight months of 2016 as compared to 71 during the same time period last year, which converts to a 55% reduction. The only identifiable series of related commercial breaks in the City were between the 2100 and 2500 blocks of Mass Ave in North Cambridge in the middle of February. Sporadic breaks into offices in Harvard and Central Square surfaced as a potential problem in March.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks Previous Year

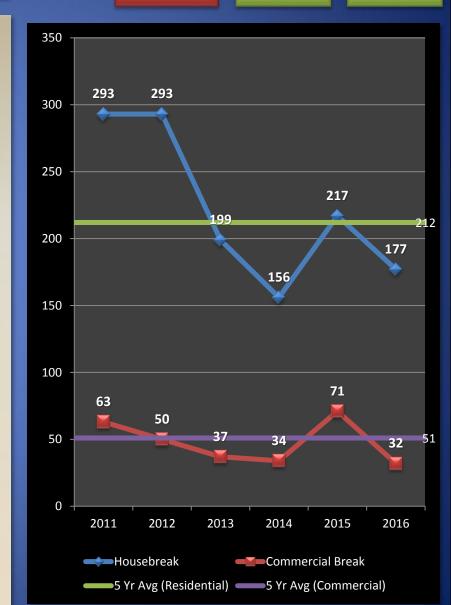
011040 10

5-Year Average

+118%

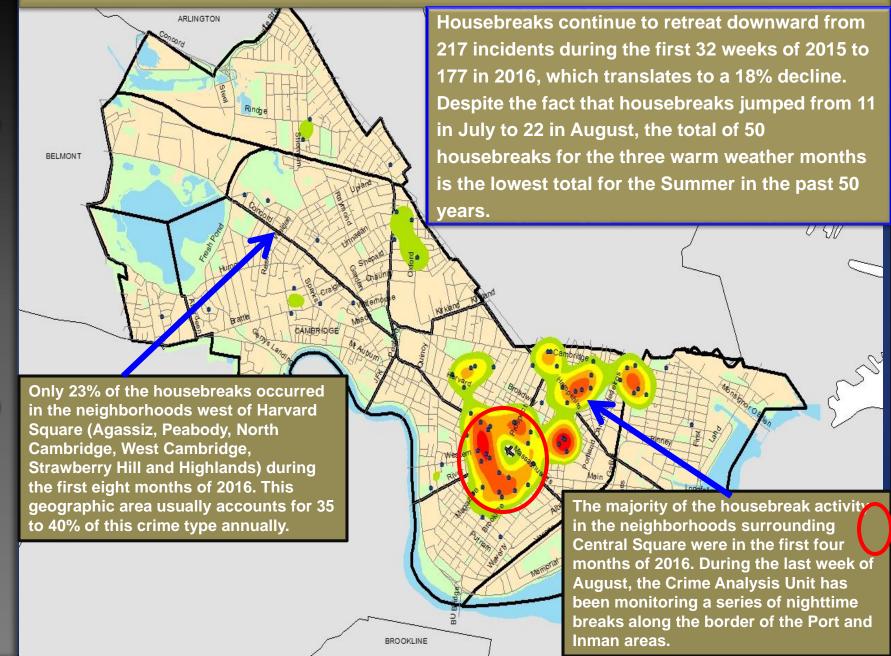
-27%

-21%



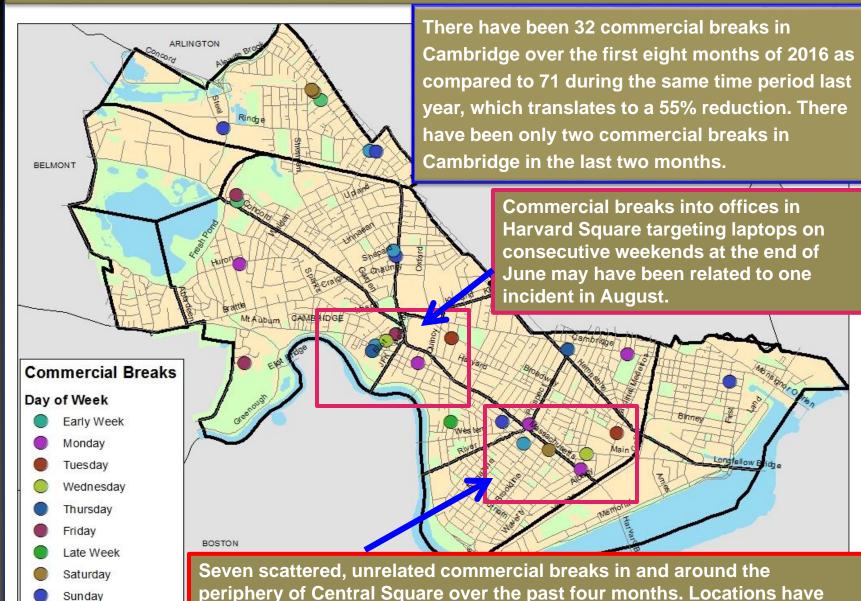


Geographic Breakdown of Housebreaks: 5.1.16 to 8.29.16





Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Breaks: 5.1.16 to 8..16



been an eclectic grouping of construction sites, offices, and retail

establishments. No spatial or temporal patterns have been identified.

August 2016

Weekend

Unknown



LARCENY

No Patterns

- Overall larceny through August 29, 2016, dipped 4% (or 50 incidents) below the same time frame in 2015. The preliminary total of 1277 larcenies reported year-to-date is also 10% below the 5-year weighted average of 1413 incidents for the first eight months of the year.
- Larcenies from motor vehicles through August 29th have been reduced by 62 crimes, or 21%, from the number reported during the same time frame in 2015. LMVs rose 60% from 20 incidents in July to 32 in August. Despite the increase, there are no patterns or trends of this crime type currently.
- Larcenies from the person in 2015 remained well below the 2014 totals throughout the entire year. This trend has reversed during 2016, with 33 additional incidents (+29%) reported this year above the number seen through the first eight months of 2015. The most active area of the city in the past four weeks was Central Square with 11 incidents, followed by Harvard Square with 5.
- There have been 199 larcenies from buildings reported thus far in 2016. This represents a 17% drop (-41 incidents) below the 240 incidents reported in 2015 and a 19% reduction below the 5year average of 246. There are no patterns or trends of this crime in the city at the present time.
- Larcenies from residences have been on the upswing through August 2016, with 28 more incidents (+17%) reported this year than during this time frame in 2015. After registering a 40% drop from June to July, this crime type rebounded from 18 incidents to 28 in August. Package thefts were the most typical category of this crime (11), followed by guest thefts (5) and thefts by workers allowed into homes (4).
- Through August 29, 2016, there have been 245 bikes reported stolen in Cambridge, down 3 from the 248 thefts reported through the same time in 2015 and down 2 from the 5-year average of 247. Bike thefts are expected to continue at a higher rate through at least September due to the spike in bikeriding students returning to the local universities.

Percent Change

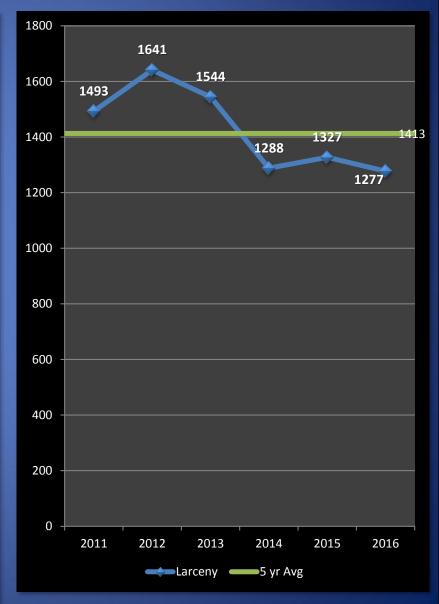
Previous Year Last 4 Weeks

5-Year Average

+14%

-4%

-10%



August 2016



LARCENY From MV

No Patterns

 A convincing decrease of 21% has been registered for larceny from motor vehicles when comparing the first eight months of this year with that of 2015. There have been 62 fewer thefts reported so far this year. This property crime has slipped 30% when measured against the 5-year average, with 100 fewer incidents than the projected total of 334 thefts.

- The monthly statistical numbers for larceny from motor vehicles continue on a roller coaster ride in 2016. After recording a significant decline in larceny from motor vehicles, with incidents plunging 76% from 46 during April to 11 in May (with the 11 thefts from cars representing one of the lowest monthly totals for this crime type in Cambridge in a number of years), a spike of 125% was registered in June with 15 additional crimes counted. Another sharp drop of 34% was registered when comparing the totals for June and July, with only 19 reported. Then we were up the ramp again in August with a 60% increase incurred with 12 additional incidents.
- Historically, the temporal trend of numerous thefts from cars on weekends has not materialized in Cambridge in 2016. At the present time, no operational patterns or trends for this crime type have been identified anywhere in the City.

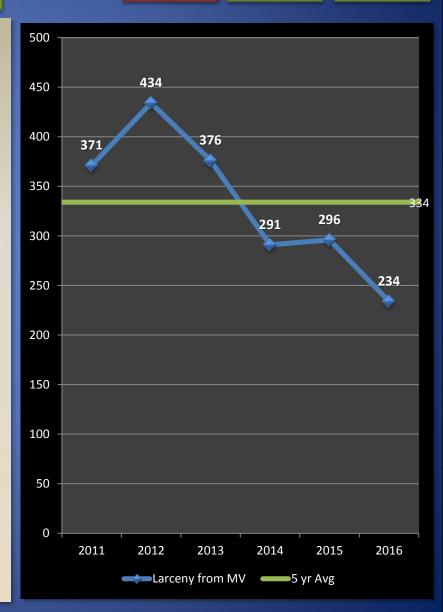
Percent Change

Previous Year Last 4 Weeks

5-Year Average

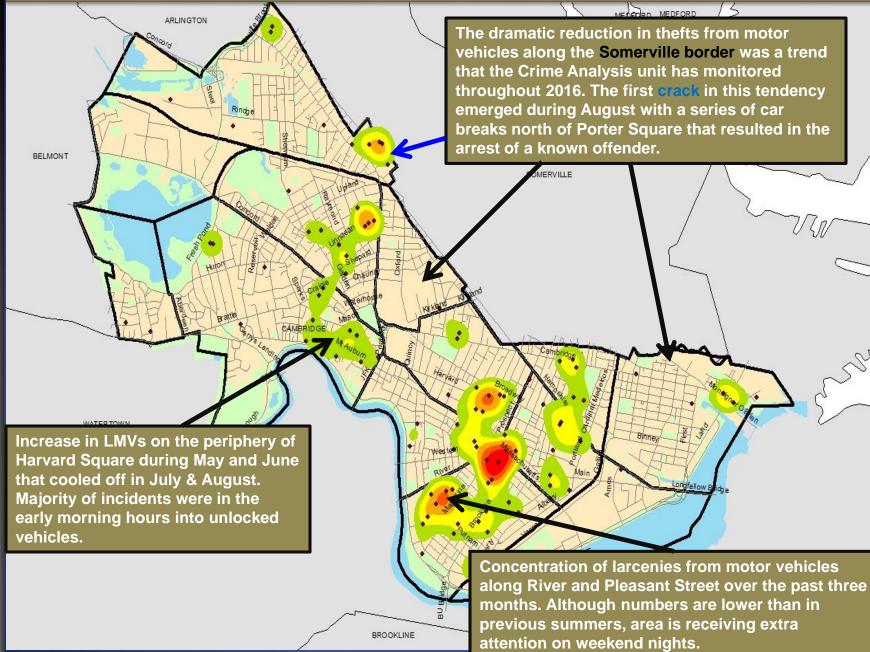
+60%

-21%





Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from MVs: 5.1.16 to 8.29.16





LARCENY: from Person No Patterns

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

Previous Year

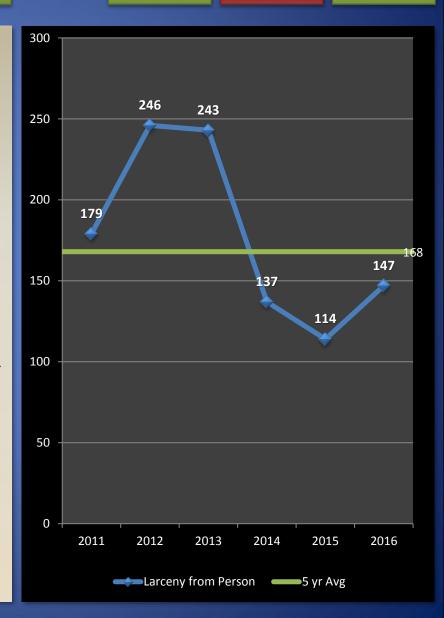
5-Year Average

-5%

+29%

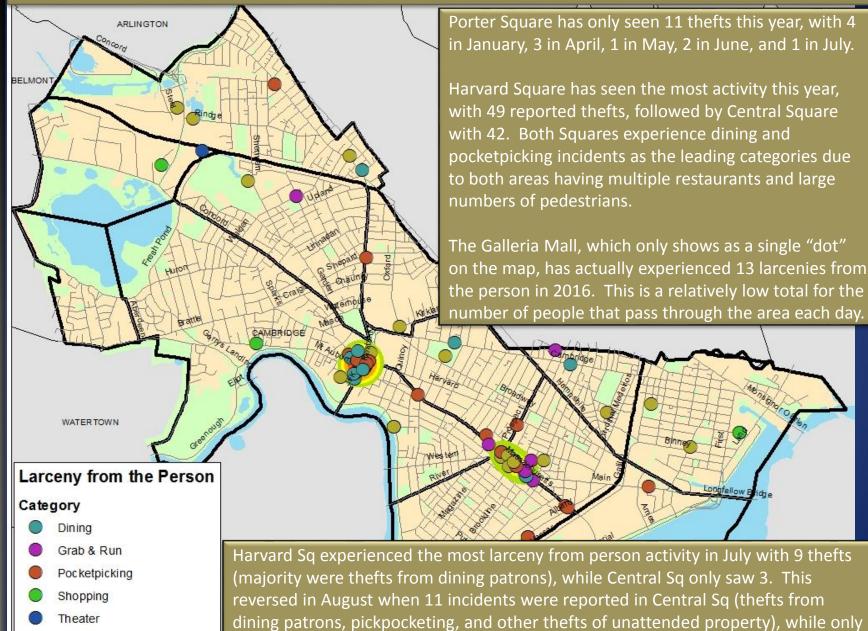
-13%

- Larcenies from the person have been on the rise during 2016, after two years of very little activity and few patterns in 2014 and 2015. This crime type is up 33 incidents (29%) through the first eight months of 2016 when compared with the same time frame in 2015. However, the total of 147 incidents reported thus far in 2016 is still 21 incidents, or 13%, below the five-year average of 168 thefts through August 29th. Incidents have declined by just one incident when comparing the most recent four weeks (August) to the previous four weeks (July).
- Harvard Square has seen the most activity thus far in 2016, with 49 incidents reported, followed closely by Central Square with 42. No other business district comes close to these two (the district with the third largest total is the Galleria/East Cambridge area with 17 thefts).
- The most active area of the city in the past four weeks was Central Square with 11 incidents. These incidents involved an array of thefts from patrons in bars/restaurants, to pocketpicking as people sat or walked through the Square or local parks, to a theft from a shelter resident and a theft from a shopper, to other miscellaneous incidents. Harvard Square only saw 5 incidents in August; a theft from a patron a local restaurant, 2 pocketpickings, and two miscellaneous thefts. Never leave your personal belongings unattended while you go to a counter or run to the restroom in a restaurant or cafe; this is the perfect opportunity to have items stolen.
- During the warmer weather months, we tend to see an increase in reports where people have left items unattended at parks or playgrounds and the items have been stolen. There were ten larcenies from persons reported at parks throughout the city from May through August of this year.





Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from Persons: 5.1.16 to 8.29.16



5 took place in Harvard Sq.

August 2016

Unattended (Other)



LARCENY: of Bicycle No Patterns

Percent Change

Previous Year

5-Year Average

+2%

Last 4 Weeks

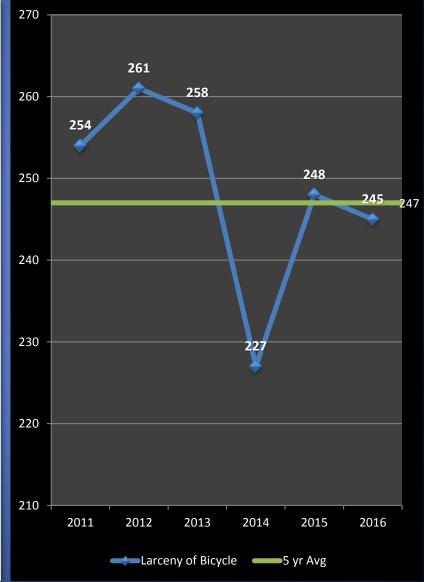
-1%

-1%

- There have been 245 bike thefts reported over the first eight months of 2016. This number is 3 incidents below the total reported during the same time frame last year (-1%) and 2 incidents below the 5-year average of 247 (-1%). There was an increase of 1 bike theft over the past four weeks, increasing from 42 incidents in July to 43 in August (+2%).
- Neighborhoods that have seen the most bike thefts year-to-date in 2016 are Cambridgeport with 39 and East Cambridge with 37, followed by Mid-Cambridge with 36 and West Cambridge with 28. Mid-Cambridge has been most active neighborhood for bike thefts in the past month with 7 thefts, followed by Riverside, West Cambridge, and Cambridgeport each with 6.
- 64% (157) of the 245 bicycles stolen year-to-date in 2016 were locked at the time of the thefts.
- There were 16 bikes reported stolen from apartment basements, hallways, vestibules, and storage areas in July & August. Year to date there have been approx. 33 of these incidents.

• Top Neighborhoods for Bike Thefts Year-To-Date:

Neighborhood	YTD Total	% Citywide			
Cambridgeport	39	16%			
East Cambridge	37	15%			
Mid-Cambridge	36	15%			
West Cambridge	28	11%			
Riverside	26	11%			

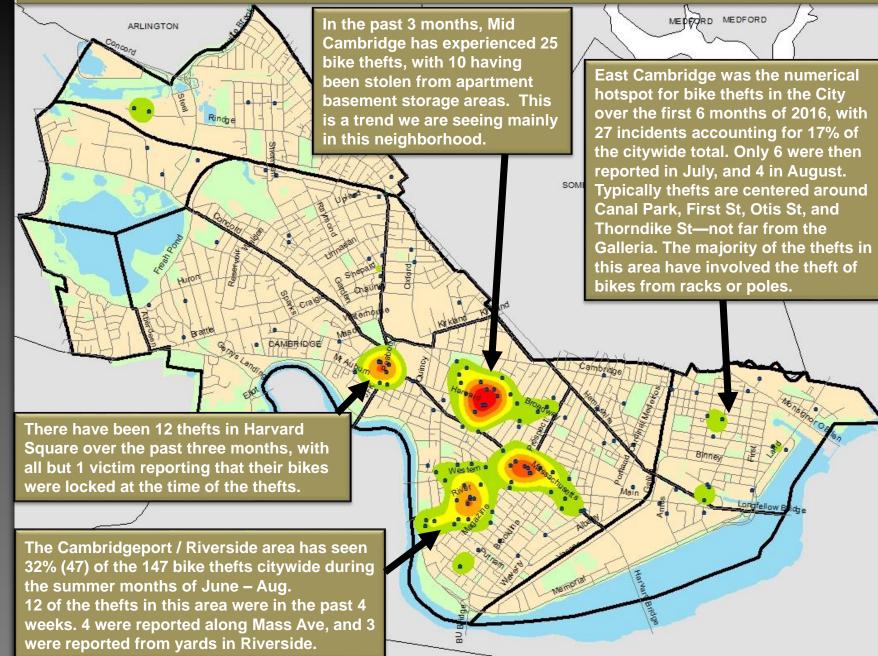


August

2016



Geographic Breakdown of Larceny of Bikes: June – August 2016





AUTO THEFT

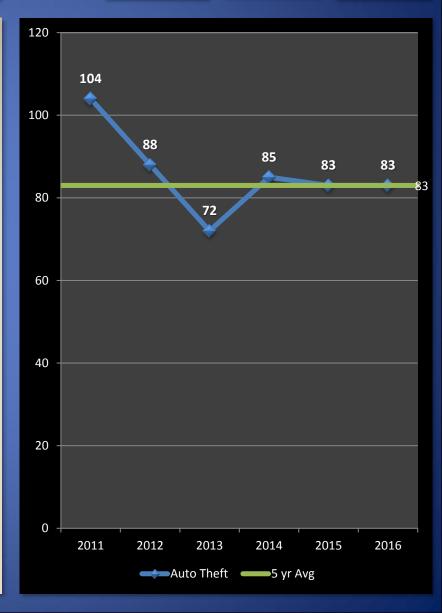
No Patterns

- The projected 5-year weighted average for auto thefts for the first eight months of the year is 83 incidents.
 With 83 thefts reported thus far in 2016, we are exactly on course with the average. Coincidentally, the same number of incidents was also reported during this time frame in 2015.
- There were 9 auto thefts reported in August, down from the 12 reported in July.
- Since the beginning of the year, the following neighborhoods have recorded auto thefts: Cambridgeport (16), The Port (16), Mid-Cambridge (10), East Cambridge (10), Peabody (6), North Cambridge (6), Inman (5), Riverside (5), West Cambridge (4), Agassiz (3), and Strawberry Hill (2).
- East Cambridge saw 3 thefts in August, triple the number recorded by any other neighborhood during this time.
- Over the past few years, warmer weather has led to increases in thefts of mopeds and scooters. This trend began as expected in April of this year, with 6 such thefts reported. But surprisingly, there were no scooter thefts reported in May, 2 in June, and 3 in July. August saw a few thefts with 3 reported, but the total of 8 scooter thefts over the warmer months thus far is still unusually low.
- Of the 83 cars stolen thus far in 2016, 50 (60%) have been recovered to date.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks Previous Year 5-Year Average

-25% 0% 0%





Help Prevent Crime

And keep yourself informed!

To receive information from the CPD:

- Sign up with for the Cambridge Alert
 Network, to receive alerts about
 emerging crime patterns, neighborhood
 meetings, and crime prevention tips, by
 visiting
- "Like" the Cambridge Police Department on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CambridgePolice

www.CambridgeMa.gov/AlertNetwork.

- Follow @CambridgePolice on Twitter.
- Visit our website at <u>www.CambridgePolice.org</u> for valuable information and reports including the Daily Log and BridgeStat, which is published on the first Friday of every month.
- Download our "MyPD" smartphone app at www.CambridgePolice.org/MyPD.

To Share Information with the CPD:

- Call our Non-Emergency Telephone Number at 617-349-3300.
 - Every call for service generates a police response, so help drive our resources by reporting things that seem suspicious or out of the ordinary.
- Send an Anonymous TEXT-A-TIP:
 - Send an ANONYMOUS text message to Tip411 (847411). Begin your message with Tip650 and then type your message. You will receive a response from the Cambridge Police with the option to continue communicating. Please remember that this is not a replacement for 9-1-1. If you witness an emergency situation, please call 9-1-1 immediately.
- Send an Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail at www.CambridgePolice.org/Tips



Questions?

- The complete 2015 Cambridge Police Annual Crime Report is now available on our website at www.CambridgePolice.org.
- We welcome all questions, comments, and suggestions.
- Please direct your feedback to: BridgeStat@CambridgePolice.org.
- To review previous editions of BridgeStat, visit our website at www.CambridgePolice.org/BridgeStat.